

28th August 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to all Canonbury children and families!

The new academic year is upon us at last and Canonbury is buzzing with excitement and activity as we prepare to welcome everyone back to school. We cannot wait to see the children's faces light up as they re-connect with their friends and their learning.

160 pupils from eligible year groups came to school in June and July and Canonbury staff succeeded in providing a safe and rewarding time for the children. We approach the full reopening ready to provide the safest possible environment in which all our children can resume their primary school education.

Key Information for 7th September

In my letter at the end of the Summer Term, I informed you that the practical arrangements for coming to and going from school would be different so that we can keep our community as safe as possible. This letter provides important information about the new whole school arrangements for drop-off and pick-up to help you prepare for your child's first day. I would like to thank you in advance for working with us to follow our procedures so that we can provide a full school day for all children within strong safety measures.

Alongside this letter is a **Coming to School** leaflet with the routines that are particular to your child's class and year group bubble. Please use that as your guide and checklist for the first days of term. On the next pages I have included the whole school staggered start times and entrance map so you can see how the procedures for your child fit into the bigger picture. I have also included some information that is important to know before the start of term.

If your child is in Nursery or Reception you will receive a separate letter early next week about your individual start and end times during the settling in period, following on from the information we sent to you at the end of term.

Next week I will also be sending further information about the school day, our hygiene and safety measures and virus prevention procedures.

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Mildren

Patrick Mildren
Head Teacher



Here I am at school today – we can't wait to welcome you back on 7th September!

♪ Sweet
Canonbury

Key Whole School Information for the first days of term

Start Dates

We are looking forward to welcoming Years 1 to 6 back on Monday, 7th September.

Reception will have a staggered start from 9th-11th September and Nursery from 14th-21st September.

Year Group Bubbles

Children are in year group 'bubbles' – this means that both classes in the year group can do things together when needed for best learning and they will keep apart from other year groups as much as possible.

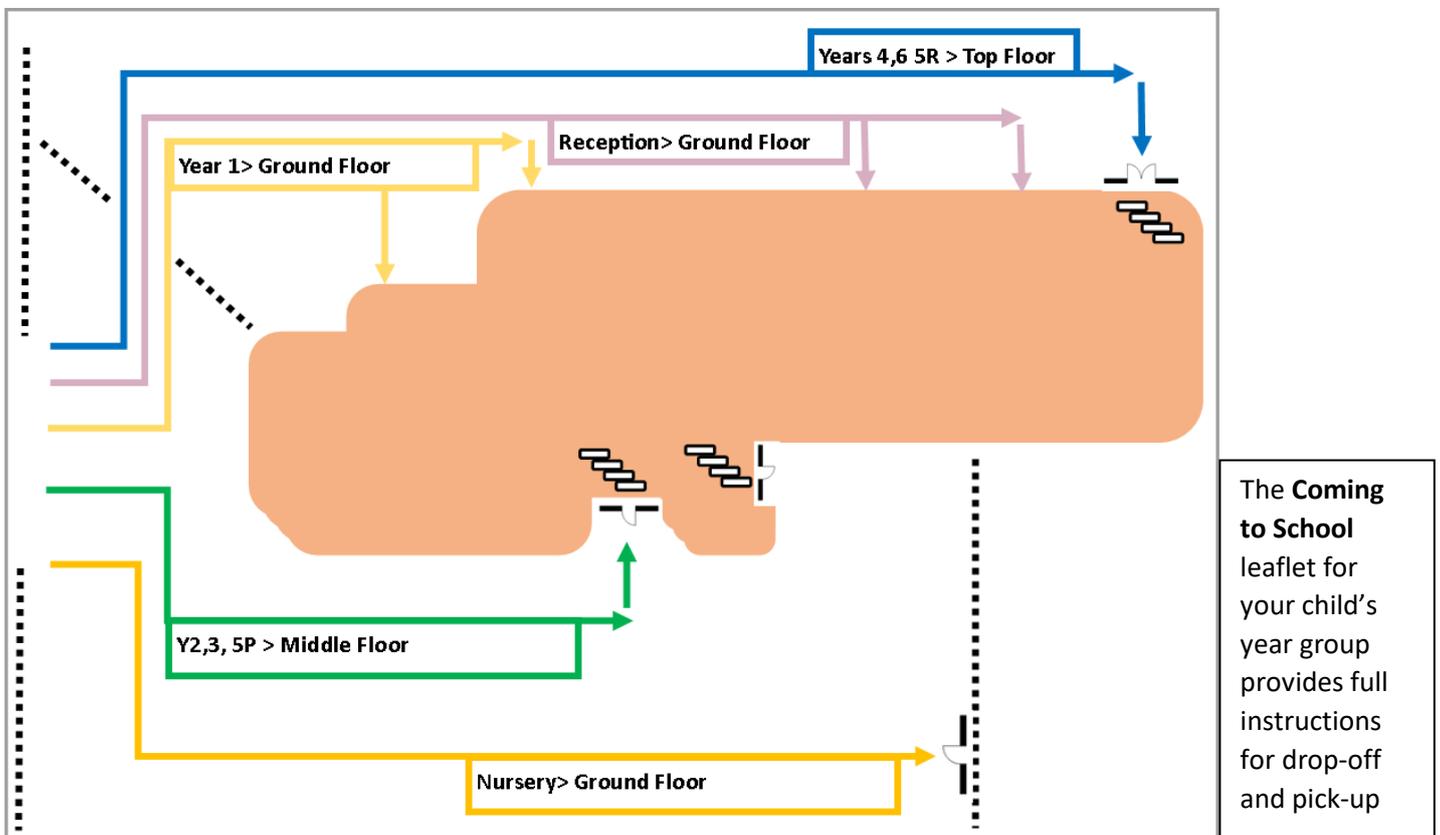
Staggered start and end of day

All children have a full school day. Each year group bubble has their own arrival and departure time to support distancing at the school gates.

Ground Floor	Nursery	Reception Pegasus	Reception Phoenix	1 Apollo	1 Artemis
Start	8:30	8:30	8:40	8:50	9:00
End	2:45	2:45	2:55	3:15	3:25
Middle Floor	2 Odysseus	2 Athena	3 Hestia	3 Hermes	5 Poseidon
Start	8:40	8:45	8:50	8:55	9:00
End	3:05	3:10	3:15	3:20	3:35
Top Floor	5 Rhea	4 Prometheus	4 Orpheus	6 Zeus	6 Hera
Start	9:05	9:10	9:15	9:20	9:25
End	3:40	3:45	3:50	3:55	4:00

Parents in Years 2-6 will drop off children at the main gate. Year 1 parents will drop off at the inner gate. Nursery and Reception parents will drop off at the classroom entrance.

Bubble staff and school leaders will be in the forecourt to supervise children's journey to class.



Drop-off and pick-up for siblings

Drop-off: If you have more than one child, bring all children at the youngest child's time (this will be the earliest start time). The older siblings can go up to class early.

Pick-up: Siblings will need to be picked up separately at their end times. We regret that we do not have the capacity to supervise siblings between pick-ups at the end of the day within the safety arrangements for bubbles. Parents and carers are asked not to wait directly outside the school between pick-ups so that we can maintain distancing. We will review this once the school community is settled into the new procedures.

Travelling to School

We ask families to walk, cycle or scoot to school to support road safety and reduce congestion around the school gate. This is more important than ever during this time, when families and the public are striving to keep their distance on a narrow pavement in a high traffic area. There will be barriers in the road outside school.

What to wear / What to bring

Please refer to the **Coming to School** leaflet for your child's class.

Lunchtime

We have asked our caterers to alternate a school packed lunch and hot meal for each year group on a weekly basis. In this way we can provide some healthy variation in the menu while ensuring that lunchtime is hygienic and safe.

One week your child will have a hot meal in the dining hall and the next week our caterers will provide a packed lunch in the classroom. If you provide your child with a packed lunch from home, they will of course eat with their class too.

In the dining hall, only one bubble will eat at a time and the tables and chairs will be cleaned before each sitting.

Playcentre, Breakfast and after-school clubs

We aim to provide play-centre and breakfast club as soon as we can after 7th September. We will be running a reduced provision due to the necessity of keeping children in small, consistent bubbles. In the first instance, these services will be reserved for key workers. Wider after-school clubs are on hold until further notice.

Attendance

We expect all pupils to attend school from September. The usual rules will apply, meaning we will be recording attendance and following up on any absences.

If your children have been staying at home due to the shielding guidance, they should be able to come back to school in September.

However, if you have received clinical or public health advice that your children should remain at home, please let us know and continue to follow that guidance. We will be offering remote education to these pupils.

Quarantine

If you have returned recently from a country on the quarantine list and will be in quarantine on or after 7th September, you must let us know. You must follow the government guidance on quarantine and your child must stay at home until the 14 days are complete.

No Face Masks

Face masks are not allowed at school. We are following the current public health guidance that wearing face masks is unlikely to increase safety in primary schools and could become unhygienic, undermining other safety measures in place.

If you or your child are using face masks on the way to school, you should remove them outside the school gates. If your child has permission to walk to school on their own, they should remove the mask and keep it in a suitable container in their school bag.

Pastoral support

We are aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for many of us, including our pupils. Please let us know if you think your children might need extra support such as if they feel anxious about coming back or they are experiencing bereavement.

You can contact Chloe Smith, Pastoral Manager, to do this: chloe.smith@canonbury.islington.sch.uk

Thank you for supporting us to keep Canonbury as safe as possible for our children, families and staff.